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TITLE

Ground anchoring device for floral pots, baskets and containers.

**REFERENCES CITED
U.S. Patent Documents**

July 2002	Girard	248/530
Nov. 1999	Collins	248/530
Jan. 1998	Collins	135/118
June 1998	Masaoka	248/397
May 1997	Lachance et al.	
May 1989	Otteson	
Feb. 1984	Wolf	135/118

TITLE

Ground anchoring device for floral pots, baskets and containers.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. FIELD OF INVENTION

This invention relates to ground anchors and more specifically, to anchors for flower containers that are placed outdoors where exposure to the elements such as wind or rain can cause the containers to turn or topple over. This invention keeps the containers in an upright position. These containers are found outside of homes, businesses and cemeteries and/or graveyards, but are not limited to these areas.

2. BACKGROUND OF INVENTIONS

U.S. Patent No. 6,412,748 issued to Girard describes a ground anchoring mechanism for securing an umbrella. The mechanism has an anchor post with a lower pointed end and a horizontal step section extending sideways from the anchor post so that the anchor post may be transitionally driven into the ground by using a person's foot on the horizontal step section and driving the anchor post into the ground using the persons weight. The mechanism also includes at least one strap, and preferably a pair of straps which defines an opening for receiving an upper end of the anchor post and which comprises an elongated band, typically resilient to encircle the pole of the umbrella and secure it to the anchor post.

U.S. Patent No. 5,988,194 issued to Collins describes a system for anchoring temporary structures. The system is comprised of a first stake having a shaft with a lower end for insertion into the ground, and an upper end including a loop. It has a second stake having a shaft with a lower end for insertion into the ground, and an upper end including at least one hook. When the lower ends of the stakes are inserted into the ground, they are angled away from each other and the shaft of the second stake is received through the loop of the first stake. They are mutually interlocked which prevents the stakes from being independently extracted from the ground.

U.S. Patent No. 4,831,798 issued to Otteson describes a ground anchoring stake used for securing animal traps, tent straps or ropes, and similar devices to the ground. The stake is an elongated cylindrical body having an upper head portion and a lower sharpened end portion. A bail is connected to or formed integrally with the body. A first portion of the bail extends outwardly from the body at a point that is below the upper head portion. The first portion of the bail curves upwardly so as to be oriented generally parallel to the body and extend above the upper head portion. An upper curved portion of the bail is disposed above the head portion of the body. A tail portion of the bail extends downwardly from the upper curved portion parallel to the body. The tail portion extends well below the upper head portion of the body. The upper curved portion permits a universal pivoting connection to be established between the stake and a connecting member attached to the anchoring device.

U.S. Patent No. 4,432,382 issued to Wolf describes a tent stake. The stake has a straight wire shank and has a head formed of the same material. The head has a hook under one side for engagement by a tent rope and has a driving surface on top. The stake has an opening to serve as a handle for the pulling of the tent stake.

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SUMMARY OF INVENTION

It is the intent of this invention to provide a ground anchor for floral containers that is easily manipulated, lightweight and convenient.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The ground-anchoring device is comprised of a vertical shaft having a hook on the top and a horizontal step along the vertical shaft. The anchoring device has the capability of being different lengths along the vertical shaft for specific accommodations relative to the size of the containers. In reference to the drawings the invention will be described accordingly.

As shown in Fig. 1, the anchor is shown from the left side view, as it would be attached to the container.

As shown in Fig. 2, the anchor is shown from the right side view, as it would be attached to the container.

As shown in FIG. 3, the anchor is shown from the right side view, as it would be attached to the container using the device with a shorter vertical shaft.

As shown in FIG. 4, the anchor is shown from the left side view, as it would be attached to the container using the device with a shorter vertical shaft.

As shown in Fig. 5, the anchor is shown, as it would be applied to the container from two opposing sides simultaneously.

As shown in Fig. 6, the anchor is shown, as it would be applied to a container having a handle and ring at the bottom where shorter anchors could be applied for the same purpose and used simultaneously.